Shortage of oil in some States

*158. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the region comprising Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh is facing oil shortage for the past few days and the oil pumps of HPC, BPC and IBP have gone dry on several occasions and it is feared that the crisis may increase in the coming days as reported in the Tribune of the 14th July, 1994; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons of this shortage and what steps Government propose to take to restore the normal supply position in the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) There were shortages reported from the States of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh at some of the retail outlets during the first few days of July, 1994. Supply situation is now satisfactory and no further shortage is anticipated.

(b) The reasons for the shortage were low inventories of MS, on account of emergency/planned shutdown of some refinery units during the period and Mathura and Koyali refineries having started production of low lead MS which resulted in the loss of production of MS. Sources of supply, movement and distribution have been rationalised to ensure regular and adequate supply to meet full demand.

Accelerating the National Malaria Eradication Programme

*159. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to accelerate the National Malaria Eradication Programme with the assistance of World Bank in the tribal areas of Gujarat and Rajasthan States;

(b) if so what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have identified any other State also for this purpose; and

(d) if so what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. A proposal seeking World Bank assistance for intensification of malaria control activities in the tribal areas of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Orissa is under formulation.

World Bank Second National Highway Loan

*160. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Second National Highway Loan by World Bank included loan for Maharashtra State as well;

(b) if so, the loan amount granted and the names of the National Highways for which it was granted; and

(c) whether work on those National Highways had commenced; if so, the present position of those projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An approximate amount of US 43.3 million has been earmarked as loan assistance for "Four-laning between Bassein Creek Bridge and Manor (KM 439 to 497) of National Highway No. 8" in Maharashtra.

(c) No, Sir.